

Boulden Contracting Company

Exploration - Earthmoving

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on 11/24/89
JTB: BCL: CCH

NOV 27 1989

Nov. 24, 1989

Mr. Peter Mygatt
U. S. Dept. of Energy
P.O. Box 2567
Grand Junction, Co.

Re: Monticello Millsite Cleanup

Dear Mr. Mygatt,

In response to the request for public comments the following areas concern me.


1. Repository site selection: I feel that the addition of another hazardous waste site to the existing tailings ponds in San Juan County is undesirable. Please give further realistic consideration to using the existing tailings ponds at the White Mesa (Energy Fuels) millsite or the Lisbon Valley (Rio Algom) millsite.

2. Cost estimates: The cost estimates appear exorbitant and unrealistic. It appears that the estimates have been "slanted" to favor the site designated as Alternative No. 1. There are certain line items that support this conclusion.

3. Ground water contamination: Please reconsider the advisability of a 60 year time span to clean up the ground water. Water is the most precious resource on the Colorado Plateau and money is well spent to preserve it.

Suggestion: Instead of wasting more time on expensive study and questionable estimates, proceed with "market-place" costs of disposing the tailings and other wastes at existing sites. Write the stipulations and put the project out to bid. Allow the bidders to bid either (or both) option(s) and select the one that will result in the lowest cost to the taxpayer.

Sincerely,



James T. Boulden

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